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## MODIFICATIONS OF THE SPLIT BONE TECHNIQUE FOR LATERAL RIDGE AUGMENTATION

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## МОДИФИЦИРОВАННЫЕ МЕТОДЫ МЕЖКОРТИКАЛЬНОЙ ОСТЕОТОМИИ И РАСЩЕПЛЕНИЯ АЛЬВЕОЛЯРНОГО ГРЕБНЯ

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This article presents a modified approach to the method of intercortical osteotomy and splitting of the alveolar ridge for use when the classical approach does not solve the problem of atrophy. The standard protocol for osteotomy with alveolar ridge splitting is not universal for all clinical situations. We operated on 33 patients using five modifications for splitting the alveolar ridge: lingual, vestibular and lingual, mesial, rotation of the bone block by 180°, and lingual with displacement of the osteotomy line.

In all cases, the alveolar ridge width reached  $7.1 \pm 0.7$  mm, sufficient for installation of dental implants with a regular or wide platform (3.75–5.0 mm), and only 6.1 % of implants failed. Based on the biological principles of alveolar bone regeneration, the indications for the use of intercortical osteotomy and splitting of the alveolar ridge have been expanded for use in various clinical situations.

*Keywords:* dental implants, alveolar bone loss, sticky bone, ridge-split technique, alveolar ridge augmentation, piezo-electric bone surgery, bone tissue grafts

Представлены модифицированные подходы метода межкортикальной остеотомии и расщепления альвеолярного гребня, когда классический подход не позволяет решить проблему атрофии. Поскольку стандартный протокол проведения остеотомии с расщеплением альвеолярного гребня не является универсальным для всех клинических ситуаций. Нами были прооперированы 33 пациента с применением 5 различных модификаций расщепления альвеолярного гребня: оральный, вестибулярный и оральный, мезиальный, с ротацией костного блока на 180°, язычный со смещением линии остеотомии.

Во всех случаях достаточная ширина альвеолярного гребня достигала  $7,1 \pm 0,7$  мм для установки зубных имплантатов с обычной или широкой платформой (3,75–5,0 мм). Количество потерянных имплантатов составило 6,1 %. Таким образом, основываясь на биологических принципах регенерации альвеолярной кости, успешно удалось расширить показания к применению межкортикальной остеотомии и расщеплению альвеолярного гребня в различных клинических ситуациях.

*Ключевые слова:* дентальная имплантация, атрофия альвеолярной кости, расщепление гребня, увеличение альвеолярного гребня, трансплантаты костной ткани

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Alveolar bone – AB  
CBCT – cone-beam computed tomography

Ridge split – RS

**The generally accepted technique of intercorcortical osteotomy with alveolar ridge splitting (RS) involves the use of a vestibular cortical block, which is tilted with an axis of rotation at the base, thereby increasing the width of the alveolar ridge. The resulting space is filled with a graft, the reconstruction area is covered with a collagen membrane, and the wound is sutured [1, 2]. Even though this protocol is well developed, it has several disadvantages.**

First, if the initial width of the alveolar bone is less than 2 mm, splitting is not recommended [3]. When the width of the cortical plate is less than 1 mm, resorption occurs. Second, splitting in the vestibular direction is not always necessary; if the loss of alveolar bone width occurs on the lingual side, recovery will be directed in the same direction, which is not provided for by the standard protocol.

This paper describes modified methods of splitting the alveolar ridge, which make it possible to perform this operation at any initial width of the alveolar bone, taking into account the vector of horizontal atrophy.

**Material and Methods.** Thirty-three patients with alveolar bone width deficiency were included in this study. All patients were generally healthy and were non-smokers. Patients were divided into groups depending on the initial width of the alveolar ridge and the direction of the atrophy vector: from the lingual or vestibular side. The initial alveolar ridge thickness was  $2.4 \pm 1.4$  mm, with a height of  $11 \pm 2.6$  mm. Clinical and digital computerized methods were used to determine the direction of alveolar bone atrophy. The palpation method is not accurate enough, because the thickness of the mucous membrane, especially in the maxilla, hides the thickness of the bone. Therefore we used cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) data to evaluate the initial width and determine whether the bone deficiency was lingual or vestibular. These were the determining factors in choosing the RS protocol.

Patients underwent modified RS techniques. In the mandible, the osteotomy was performed using the Piezotome Solo LED ultrasonic surgical device (ACTEON Group, La Marnasse, Olliergues, France); in the maxilla we used Sonosurgery® Inserts (Pesaro, Italy). Microscopic screws 1.2 mm in diameter and 8, 10, or 12 mm long (Conmet, Moscow, Russia) were used to fix the bone blocks. The bone defects were filled with SureOss allogenic bone (HansBiomed, Seoul, South Korea), and the reconstruction area was covered with a collagen membrane (BioplastDent, Belgorod, Russia). Before the wound was sutured, mucoperiosteal flaps were mobilized from the lingual and vestibular sides, and the periosteum

on both flaps was brought together with inner mattress resorbable sutures (Vicryl 4–0, Ethicon, Somerville, NJ, USA). This method provided membrane fixation and covered the reconstruction area with periosteum. The edges of the mucosal flap were sutured with nonresorbable monofilament polyamide threads (Daclon 6–0, Futberg, Minsk, Belarus). The sutures were removed 7–10 days post operatively.

Patients were allocated to five groups based on the surgical protocol used. In Group 1, the RS was performed in a lingual (palatal) direction; in Group 2, the RS was performed in both lingual and vestibular directions; and in Group 3 the RS was performed in vestibular and mesial directions. In Group 4, the bone block was rotated 180° after vestibular RS; and in Group 5 (with initial width <2 mm), the upper line of the osteotomy was shifted downwards and lingually 1–2 mm, and the splitting was performed in a vestibular direction.

**Group 1 (lingual RS).** This group included patients with horizontal atrophy of the alveolar ridge (AR) on the lingual side. The initial width of the AR was  $2.8 \pm 0.7$  mm. At first, a vertical cut was made along the center of the AR to a depth corresponding to the level of the split, but maintaining a distance of at least 2 mm up to the lower jaw channel (or sinus floor). The length of the osteotomy corresponded to the length of the narrowed part of the alveolar bone. The cortical layer was then osteotomized downward from the edges of the horizontal cut on the lingual side, again to the height that corresponded to the level of cleavage. Finally, the lower edges of the vertical lines were connected by cutting the cortical plate to a depth of no more than 1 mm. This osteotomy line defined the level of fracture and rotation of the lingual bone block. Then the RS was progressively implemented using bone expanders of increasing diameter (1.2; 2.3; 3.2; 3.8; and 4.2 mm). The displaced block was then fixed with microscrews to the vestibular cortical plate. Sharp bone edges were smoothed out, and the bone defect was filled with biomaterial and covered with a membrane. The wound was then sutured (Fig. 1).

**Group 2 (lingual and vestibular RS).** Patients with horizontal atrophy of the AR on the oral and vestibular sides were included in this group. The initial width of the alveolar base was  $3.2 \pm 0.6$  mm. The surgical protocol consisted of a combination of a classical RS and RS in the lingual direction as described for Group 1 (Fig. 2).

**Group 3 (mesial RS).** Patients with irregular horizontal atrophy on the vestibular side in the area of the premolars and molars were included in this group. The initial width of the AR in the premolar region was  $2.4 \pm 0.4$  mm, and the

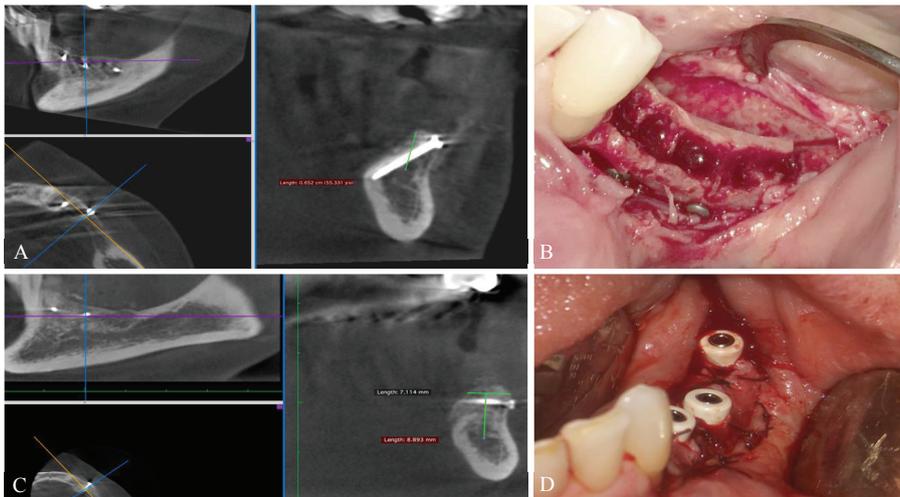


Fig. 1. Stages of oral RS: A – CBCT before the operation, multi-planar reformation; B – Stage of operation. Splitting and displacement of the cortical block was performed lingually, fixation with microscrews to the vestibular plate; C – CBCT 3 months after reconstruction, multi-planar reformation; D – Stage of implantation: implants and healing abutments are placed, mucous membrane flap is displaced apically and fixed with sutures

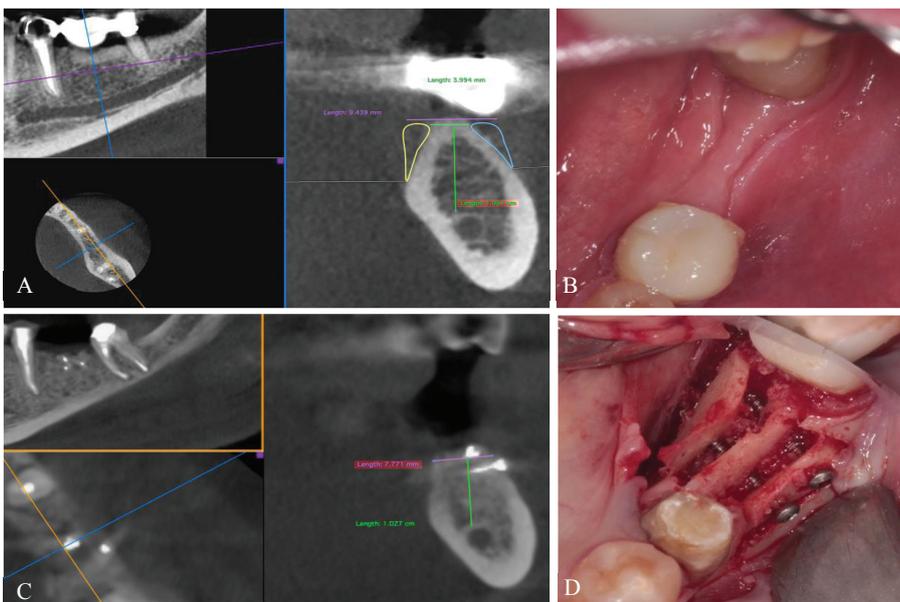


Fig. 2. Stages of oral and vestibular RS: A – CBCT before operation, multi-planar reformation; B – Alveolar ridge before the operation; C – CBCT 4 month after reconstruction; D – Stage of operation. Splitting and displacement of the cortical block was performed lingually, fixation by microscrews to the vestibular plate

ridge was gradually expanded to a width of  $7.1 \pm 0.7$  mm in the molar zone. The surgical protocol was still a classical RS; however, no vertical osteotomy in the distal section was carried out. The bone fragment was «bent» from the mesial side, remaining attached distally, and was fixed with two microscrews. The graft filled the bone space and the reconstruction area was covered with a membrane. The wound was sutured layer by layer (Fig. 3).

**Group 4 (RS and 180° rotation).** The initial width of the AR in patients of this group was  $2.4 \pm 0.3$  mm. The osteotomy was performed in accordance with the classical protocol, except that the lower line was 2–3 mm longer than the upper line. Thus, the block had a trapezoid form. The block was separated and turned 180° upwards and fixed with microscrews. Thus, the upper edge of the block was wider than the bone defect and completely overlapped it. The

block was firmly fixed with microscrews, the free space was filled with biomaterial and covered with a membrane, and the wound was sutured layer by layer.

**Group 5 (RS after lingual shift).** Patients with horizontal vestibular atrophy of the AR were included in this group. The initial width of the AR was  $1.4 \pm 0.6$  mm, and the height was more than 11 mm. The protocol differed from the classical one in that the upper line of the osteotomy was shifted downwards and lingually by 1–2 mm, and the split was performed in a vestibular direction. After displacement of the vestibular block, its edge was above the lingual edge. To level out this discrepancy, the lower line of the osteotomy was expanded downwards and the block also shifted downwards. The block was firmly fixed with microscrews, the free space was filled with biomaterial and covered with a membrane, and the wound was sutured layer by layer (Fig. 4).

In all cases the implants were installed 4 months after reconstruction.

**Results and Discussion.** A total of 33 patients underwent surgery. In Group 1 (lingual RS) there were 10 patients (2 mandibular and 8 maxillary). Group 2 (lingual and vestibular RS) consisted of 3 patients, and Group 3 (mesial RS) consisted of 6 patients. In Group 4 (RS and 180° bone block rotation) there were 5 patients, and in Group 5 (RS after lingual shift) there were 9 patients. Figures 1–30 show the initial CBCT images, the main stages of the surgery, CBCT images at 4 months after reconstruction, and panoramic radiographic images after implantation.

In all cases, an adequate width of AR was achieved ( $7.1 \pm 0.7$  mm)

for placing dental implants with a regular or wide platform (3.75–5.0 mm). Only two implants failed. In this study we did not estimate the level of intraoral implant resorption, because the total number of reconstructions and implants installed was insufficient to obtain reliable statistical data.

The RS method has been proven as a reliable method for achieving adequate width of the alveolar ridge with long-term stability, which is reflected in many publications [4, 5]. Different criteria for conducting RS have been proposed.

A study by Artifexova et al. [6] showed that the RS technique can be performed with an initial alveolar ridge width of at least 2 mm. For smaller widths, the author recommended bone grafting or guided bone regeneration. However, the 5-year survival rate of the implants in Group 5 patients (with initial AR width of  $1.4 \pm 0.6$  mm) was 96.5%,

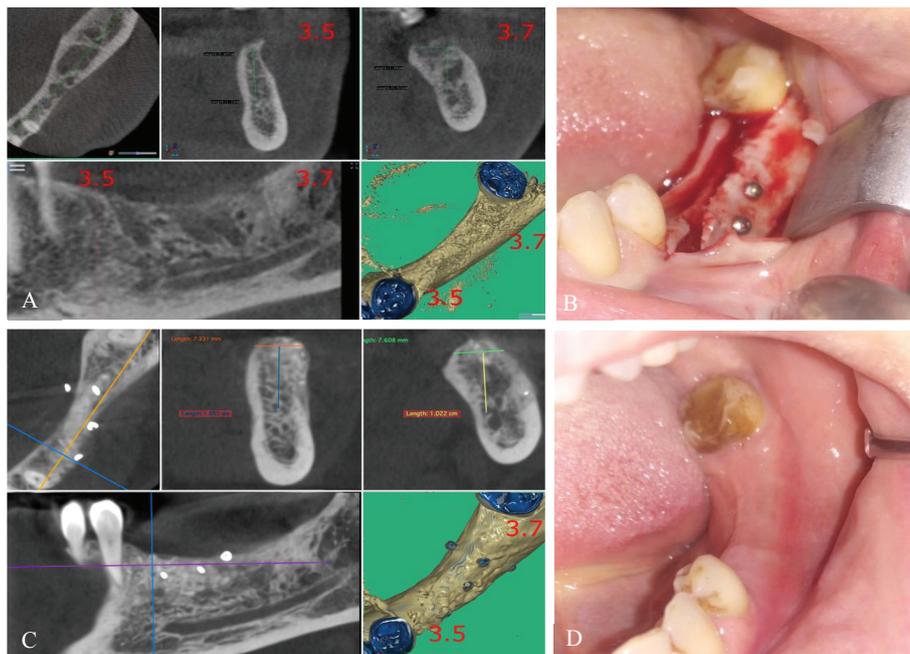


Fig. 3. Stages of mesial RS: A – CBCT before the operation, multi-planar and 3D reformation; B – The step of operation: cortical block is splitted and shifted vestibularly; rotation axis vertical and distal. The displaced block is fixed by microscrews to the lingual plate; C – 4 months post op; D – Intraoral view 4 months post op

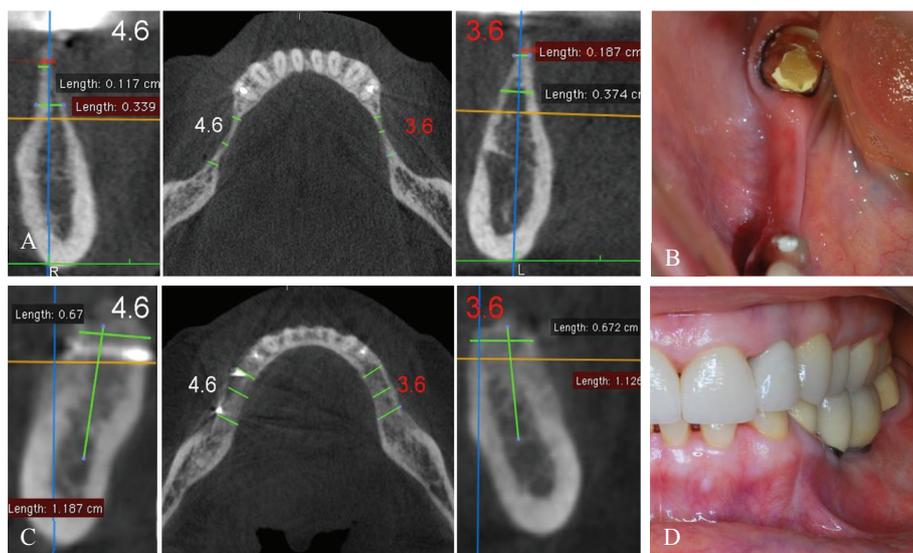


Fig. 4. Stages of RS after lingual shift: A – The initial CBCT; B – Alveolar ridge in 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 teeth area; C – CBCT 4 month post Op; D – Prosthetic design 8 years after implantation and prosthetics

which is consistent with the work of Zhusev [7], who found that the total osseointegration rate of implants 3 years after bone surgery was 96.4 % in the maxilla and 98.5 % in the mandible (97.53 % for all implants). The 10-year intervals were 0.47 mm (standard deviation 0.91 mm) and 1.93 mm (standard deviation 0.93 mm) respectively.

In the mandible, implantation after a previously performed RS is a reliable method, with a high level of implantation success comparable to implantation with initially sufficient bone volume. These data are consistent with those of other studies [8].

We suggest that one of the reasons for the high success rate of RS is the formation of an organotypic structure in the alveolar ridge with external cortical and inner sponge layers, which is visible in the transverse CBCT slices. Another important factor that contributes to successful bone regeneration is the tight alignment of the periosteum with the displaced cortical blocks and the overlap of the periosteum with the bone gap. The periosteum ensures the germination of blood vessels and provides access to the cells involved in bone regeneration [9]. To avoid exfoliation of the periosteum during dental implant installation, we were careful to remove the microscrews through small relaxing incisions in the gingival mucosa above the screw head.

**Conclusions.** Alveolar ridge splitting is a reliable method for reconstructing the width of the alveolar ridge in the maxilla and mandible. The presented modifications of the classical protocol have expanded the indications for the RS technique to increase the width of the alveolar bone.

**Disclosures:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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## PATHOBIOCHEMICAL CHANGES IN THE HISTOLOGICAL STRUCTURE OF KIDNEYS WITH EXPERIMENTAL HYPERVITAMINOSIS D

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## ПАТОБИОХИМИЧЕСКИЕ ИЗМЕНЕНИЯ ГИСТОЛОГИЧЕСКОЙ СТРУКТУРЫ ПОЧЕК ПРИ ЭКСПЕРИМЕНТАЛЬНОМ ГИПЕРВИТАМИНОЗЕ D

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This study focused on the nature and degree of pathobiochemical changes in kidney tissues from the post-lactation period of female rats and their offspring at different ages after exposure to hypervitaminosis D. The pathobiochemical cascade from hypervitaminosis D involved excessive calcium accumulation and was characterized by self-damage to cells and the development of hypoxia during gestation and lactation and in the post-lactation period in rats and their offspring. Hypervitaminosis D produced vascular disorders (plethora of vessels of the kidney, stasis and interstitial edema) leading to increased epithelial cell size and narrowing of the lumen of tubules. These disorders were combined with hyaline-droplet protein dystrophy of the convoluted tubules and fatty degeneration of the epithelium of collecting ducts. There were also multiple foci of hyper eosinophilia and areas of calcification located in the vessel walls, glomeruli and tubules of kidneys.

*Keywords: hypervitaminosis D, calcium, hypoxia, kidneys, experiment, epithelial cells*